

Economic Development Committee, Town of Red Hook

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 8:10 a.m. by Michelle R. Martin, chair, at the Red Hook Town Hall.

Present: Michelle R. Martin, chairperson; Christopher Klose, secretary; Christopher Clark, Theresa Haney, Beth Jones, Brad Mitchell, Ben Shute, members; Micki Strawinski, Red Hook Town Board liaison.

Approval of Minutes: On a motion by Mr. Mitchell, with a second by Mr. Shute, the Committee approved the minutes of the meeting of Thursday, April 8, 2010 (attached).

Old Business: After Ms. Martin distributed the agenda for the meeting (attached), the Committee discussed:

1. Committee roster – Ms. Haney volunteered to complete the roster.
2. Zoning Review Committee – Mr. Klose reported attending the meeting of April 8, noting that the committee failed to advance its proposed Parking Regulations (attached) because of one member's insistence on a line-by-line semantic review of the document.
3. Short-term Goals –
 - Inter-committee communication – Ms. Martin, Ms. Jones and Mr. Klose have yet to develop a format for a monthly progress report.
 - Community visioning – Mr. Clark said the next step would be to form a subcommittee, representative of Red Hook's diverse community, to develop a community-wide survey. Discussion ensued concerning the need, first, to clarify (including checking with the Red Hook Town attorney) the subcommittee's role, responsibilities and goals, and to develop guidelines for subcommittee action.

It was agreed the EDC's visioning was to be done only within the broader strategic framework of the Dutchess County Centers and Greenspaces plan and the Red Hook Comprehensive Plan, which set up the Town of Red Hook's future structural "bones" (i.e., residential areas, business concentrations, farms and open spaces). The EDC vision is to capture the desirable mix of residents who will comprise our community's future "heart" (i.e., farmers, entrepreneurs, artisans, professionals, etc.).

- Committee governance – Through the Town Attorney, Ms. Strawinski is to determine: (1) whether or not attendance via conference call is permissible and qualifies as attendance at committee meetings, and (2) if the visioning committee is considered to be a subcommittee or an advisory committee and, if so, what rules apply, including the open meetings law.

- Strategic planning -- In view of Red Hook Apple Blossom Day occurring on Saturday, May 8, the Committee rescheduled its Strategic Planning Session to Saturday, May 22, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Ms. Strawinski agreed to verify with the Town Attorney whether the session should be deemed an open meeting.

Adjournment: Ms. Martin, chairperson, adjourned the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

Date